



# Kilgore Chamber of Commerce & Visitors Bureau

## "City of Stars"

Federal Communications Commission  
445 12<sup>th</sup> Street, SW  
Washington, D.C. 20554

May 26, 2011

Dear Chairman Genachowski and Commissioners:

Kilgore is a small city in East Texas with a proud history. We are home to Kilgore College and the famous Kilgore College Rangerettes, as well as the annual Texas Shakespeare Festival. Kilgore's Chamber of Commerce was established in 1931 and supports approximately 500 area businesses. These businesses subscribe to the Chamber's mission of championing the interests of business and advancing the general welfare and prosperity of Kilgore. As president of the Kilgore Chamber of Commerce, I am urging you to strongly consider the merger between AT&T and T-Mobile telephone companies, which is currently being reviewed in your 11-65 docket.

In 1930, the discovery of the surrounding East Texas oilfield transformed Kilgore from a declining rural community into a boomtown. While the oil boom may have subsided, Kilgore continues to be a city of thriving small businesses. The combined quality service, manpower and broadband spectrum of both AT&T and T-Mobile would allow for better access to a variety of services and information for the small business owners of Kilgore and the surrounding area. Access to high-speed Internet also allows these businesses to connect with markets around the world, allowing them to compete no matter where they are based.

Commissioners, this merger will benefit the businesses of Kilgore by encouraging job creation, investment, and innovation. I ask that you approve this merger and allow small businesses throughout Texas and the country the opportunity to access the latest and most advanced technology that this merger will provide.

Sincerely,

Mike Goston, IOM  
President, Kilgore Chamber of Commerce

CC:

Commissioner Michael Copps  
Commissioner Robert McDowell  
Commissioner Mignon Clyburn  
Commissioner Meredith Attwell Baker